

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-3. By this amendment, claims 1 and 3 have been amended. Therefore, claims 1-3 are pending in the application.

Claims Rejections – U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-3 have been rejected under U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Izawa (USPN 3,385,371) in view of Heuwieser (USPN 4,668,858). The rejection is respectfully traversed. The Applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner has not shown that the cited prior art references teach or suggest all of the limitations of the claims.

Izawa discloses a method and system of selectively coding indications on a printed map. The method disclosed by Izawa involves locating invisible codes on a surface of a map over areas of interest, such as roads or buildings. The invisible codes are located selectively on the map by a user after the map has been printed and the codes contain information relating to a location on the map as well as information relating to the area of interest. For example, when a user selectively codes an area of interest the coded data will contain that area's location as well as data relating to what that area represents, for example, a road or a building. (See for example column 2, lines 11-19 and column 3, lines 44-63).

In contrast, the coded data of the Applicants' invention, as defined in claims 1 and 3, is limited to "coded data indicative of an **identity** (emphasis added) of the map and a plurality of reference points of the map..". Hence, each individual data code contains information relating to its location on the map as well as information as to the identity of the map. This feature of the coded data indicating the identity of the map is not disclosed, taught or suggested by Izawa or Heuwieser alone or in combination.

Furthermore, the method disclosed in Izawa clearly dictates that a user codes areas of interests onto a standard map selectively after the map has been printed. This data is then read into a computer system and displayed. For example, a user will identify a building and will locate an invisible code onto the surface of the map in the area of the building. Optionally, a user may print a visible symbol onto the map to indicate that that area has an invisible code located thereon. Only map data that has been coded by the individual is displayable on a display module. (See Column 3, lines 1-68 and Column 4 lines 1-18)

In contrast, the method of the Applicants' invention involves printing a map of a geographic area along with the coded data at substantially the same time. The Applicant has amended claims 1 and 3 to include "...the geographic locations and the coded data being printed substantially simultaneously;..". The additional language finds support in the specification on page 8 at lines 21-28, page 10 at lines 10-15 and page 18 at lines 1-13. Hence, it is clear from the amended language of the claims that the user does not selectively code the coded data onto the map. Rather, the coded data is located on the map at substantially the same time as the geographic locations.

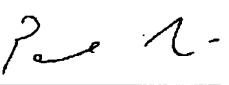
Neither Izawa nor Heuwieser disclose, teach or suggest coded data and visible geographic data being printed substantially simultaneously. The limitations of claim 1 and 3, wherein the coded data contains an indication as to the identity of the map and is printed substantially simultaneously with the geographic locations, is not disclosed, taught or suggested by either of Izawa or Heuwieser. As such, the applicant respectfully submits that claims 1 and 3 are allowable. As claim 2 is dependent on allowable claim 1, the Applicant respectfully submits that there are no further grounds of rejection of this claim.

Conclusion:

It is respectfully submitted that all of the Examiner's rejections have been successfully traversed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of the application is courteously solicited.

Very respectfully,

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